

The Claims Defining the Invention are as Follows

1. A method of controlling sperm comprising the step of contacting the sperm with an effective amount of copper silicate.
2. Use of an effective amount of copper silicate as a contraceptive.
- 5 3. Use according to claim 2 wherein the copper silicate is applied to a site expected to receive or come into contact with sperm.
4. Use according to claim 3 wherein the site is a body part such as a reproductive organ or part thereof.
5. Use according to claim 3 wherein the site is selected from the group consisting
10 of: part of the reproductive tract, the penis, vagina or cervix.
6. Use according to claim 3 wherein the site is a contraceptive device or agent such as a condom or the like.
7. Use according to claim 6 wherein the site is a sex aid.
8. A method according to claim 1 wherein the effective amount is selected from
15 the group consisting of: 1-10g, 2-8g and 4-6g.
9. A contraceptive formulation comprising copper silicate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
10. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 adapted for topical administration.
- 20 11. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 or 10 selected from the group consisting of: a liquid, cream, or gel.

12. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 wherein the copper silicate is present as a solution.
13. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 wherein the copper silicate is present as an acidified solution.
- 5 14. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 13 comprising acetic acid.
15. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 13 or 14 with a pH of about 3-6.
16. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 14 wherein the final concentration of acetic acid in the formulation is about 0.1% wt - 2% wt.
- 10 17. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 wherein the copper silicate is present as a micronized solid.
18. A contraceptive formulation according to claim 9 capable of acting as a lubricant.
19. A contraceptive formulation according to any one of claims 9 to 18 wherein the 15 concentration of copper is approximately 0.01% - 10% w/w.
20. A contraceptive formulation according to any one of claims 9 to 18 wherein the concentration of copper is approximately 0.05% – 0.5% w/w.
21. A contraceptive formulation according to any one of claims 9 to 18 wherein the concentration of copper is approximately 0.05% – 0.3% w/w.
- 20 22. A contraceptive device comprising an amount of copper silicate that is able to control sperm.
23. A device according to claim 22 wherein the copper silicate is incorporated thereon.

24. A device according to claim 22 wherein the copper silicate is incorporated therein.
25. A device according to any one of claims 22 to 24 in the form of a barrier agent.
26. A device according to claim 25 wherein the barrier agent is selected from the group consisting of: sponges, films, cervical caps, diaphragms and condoms.
27. The use of copper silicate as a spermicide or for the preparation of a formulation for controlling sperm.